



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 071671/0156

Applicant: Tadashi EMORI et al.

Title: SPEAKER'S VOICE RECOGNITION SYSTEM, METHOD AND RECORDING MEDIUM

Serial No. 09/695,067

Filed: October 25, 2000

Examiner: Unknown

Art Unit: 2641

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56 and 37 CFR §1.97**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The instant Information Disclosure Statement is believed to be filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b), prior to the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits (first scenario). If that is not the case, such as in a second scenario in which a first Office Action on the merits has been mailed before the filing of the instant Information Disclosure Statement, then either a certification or fee is required, and a certification is provided below. If neither of the first or second scenarios is the case, such as if a final Office Action or a notice of allowance has been mailed by the PTO (third scenario), then both a certification and fee are required, and in that case a certification is provided below and also the PTO is authorized to obtain the necessary fee to have the instant IDS considered, from Foley & Lardner Deposit Account #19-0741.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned hereby certifies in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Statement.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

A translation of a portion of a Japanese Office Action that issued October 21, 2003 with respect to a counterpart Japanese patent application is provided below.

"1. Claims 1 through 24/Cited Literature 1 through 3

A voice recognition device which performs cepstrum conversion using warping parameters along the frequency axis is described in Cited Literature 1 through 2.

Furthermore, the point of using warping along the frequency axis in a voice conversion device is described in Cited Literature 3, and since both of the above devices belong to a similar technical field in that they entail "voice processing," no particular difficulty is found in applying the art described in aforementioned Cited Literature 1 through 2 to a voice conversion device.

List of Cited Literature

1. Li Lee and Richard Rose, "A frequency warping approach to speaker normalization," IEEE Transactions on Speech and Audio Processing, 1998. 01, Vol. 6, No. 1, Pages 49-60.
2. Toshiaki Fukada and Yoshinori Sagisaka, "Speaker normalized acoustic modeling based on 3-D Viterbi decoding," Proceedings of the 1998 IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech, and Signal Processing (ICASSP '98), 1998. 05. 12, Vol. 1, Pages 437-440.
3. Maeda, Takeda, Kajita and Sakakura: "Straight voice conversion using warping along the frequency axis of the spectrum," Proceedings of the 1999 Spring Research Publication Meeting of the Acoustical Society of Japan 1, 10 March 1999, 1-3-4, Pages 187-188.

Record of Prior Art Literature Search Results

Fields searched - IPC 7th Edition - G10L15/00-15/28
JICST File (JOIS)
IEEE Xplore

Prior art literature

Tokuda, Mashiko, Kobayashi and Kitamura: "Voice mel-cepstrum analysis using secondary allpass function based frequency conversion," Proceedings of the 1998 Spring Research Publication Meeting of the Acoustical Society of Japan, 17 March 1998, 3-7-13, Pages 279-280.

Miyajima, Watanabe, Tokuda, Kitamura and Katakiri: "Speaker recognition based on identifying feature extraction: Mel-cepstrum feature optimization," Institute of Electronics, Information and Communication Engineers Research Reports {Voice}, 6 August 1999, Vol. 99, No. 256, SP99-62, Pages 1-8."

Applicant's statements regarding the Japanese Office Action is based on a partial translation that Applicant's representative obtained. This statement should in no way be considered as an agreement by Applicant with, or an admission of, what is asserted in the Japanese Office Action.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Respectfully submitted,

December 15, 2003
Date

Phillip J. Articola
Phillip J. Articola
Registration No. 38,819

FOLEY & LARDNER
Washington Harbour
3000 K Street, N.W., Suite 500
Washington, D.C. 20007-5143
Telephone: (202) 672-5300
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399